



September 14, 2001

**Via Electronic Filing**

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Re: Ex Parte Presentation in CC Docket No. 96-98*

Dear Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, the Competitive Telecommunications Association ("CompTel") hereby gives notice that on September 13, 2001, its representatives, and representatives of CompTel members AT&T, Cable & Wireless, and WorldCom met with Commission staff to discuss the need for the FCC to take comprehensive action to improve the quality of ILEC-provisioned interstate special access circuits. CompTel met with Dorothy Attwood, Jeffrey Carlisle, Michele Carey, and Chris Libertelli of the Common Carrier Bureau.

In this meeting, CompTel explained that it had established a Special Access Task Force in June of this year in response to growing complaints by competitive carriers regarding the progressively declining service quality of interstate special access. This group is comprised of some of the largest purchasers of ILEC-provisioned special access in the telecommunications industry, all of whom are critically dependent on ILEC-provisioned special access in order to provide telecommunications services to their customers.<sup>1</sup> For this reason, CompTel asked the Commission to adopt comprehensive performance measures, standards, and to prescribe certain consequences for the failure to meet these standards. The Commission, CompTel explained, must ensure that interstate

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<sup>1</sup> The CompTel carrier members in the Special Access Task Force are: AT&T, Broadwing, Cable & Wireless, El Paso Global Networks, Enron, Focal Communications, Global Crossing, Level 3, and WorldCom.

special access service is available to other carriers, especially competitors of the ILECs, at rates, terms, and conditions which are just, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory.

Representing AT&T at this meeting were Robert Quinn and James Casserly. Representing Cable and Wireless, were Audrey Wright and Steve Augustino. Representing WorldCom were Lisa Smith and Richard Metzger. Representing CompTel was the undersigned attorney.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jonathan D. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Jonathan D. Lee  
Vice President,  
Regulatory Affairs